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TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE

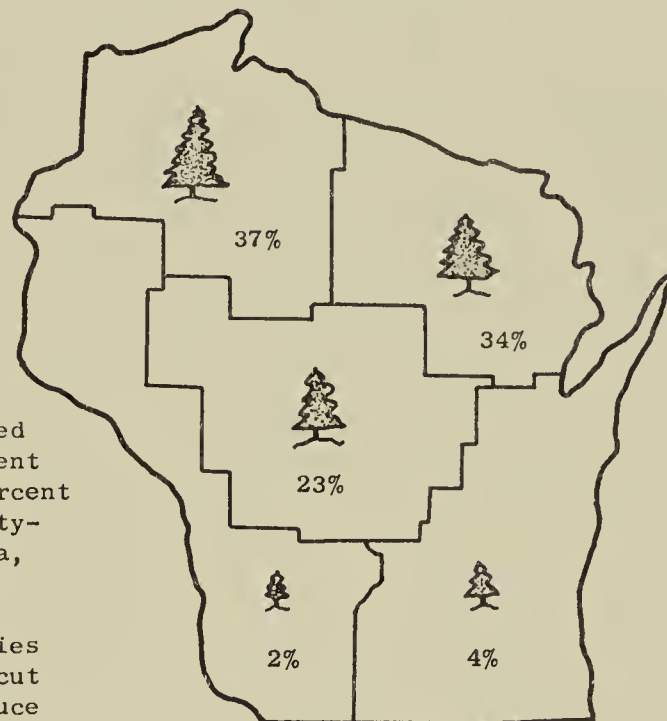
No. 553

Wisconsin Christmas tree harvest estimated at nearly 1-1/3 million trees, 1957

A survey recently completed by the Wisconsin Christmas Tree Producers' Association and summarized by the Lake States Station indicates that approximately 1-1/3 million Christmas trees were cut in Wisconsin during 1957. Some 1,500 licensed Christmas tree dealers transported and marketed most of the trees in cities and towns throughout Wisconsin and neighboring states. Licensed dealers from out-of-state shipped about 150,000 Wisconsin Christmas trees to other midwestern states. Nearly two-thirds of the exported trees were balsam fir; 25 percent were pine; and about 10 percent were spruce.

Christmas tree cutting operations were concentrated largely in the northern part of the State, with 37 percent of the cut coming from the Northwest district and 34 percent of the cut from the Northeast district (see map). County-wise the largest cuts were registered in Lincoln, Oneida, and Douglas Counties.

Balsam fir was the principal Christmas tree species accounting for about half of the total number of trees cut in the State. Pine was second with 26 percent, and spruce third with 20 percent. Altogether about 71 percent of the trees were cut from wildlands and 29 percent from plantations. Practically all the balsam fir was cut from wildlands in contrast to pine, which was harvested almost entirely from plantations.



Where trees were cut, 1957

Cuttings on small forest holdings accounted for about 90 percent of the total Christmas tree output; large private and public holdings together accounted for the remaining 10 percent.

Estimated number of Christmas trees cut by district, ownership, species, and type of land, 1957^{1/}

(Thousand trees)

District and class of owner	All species			Pine		Spruce		Balsam fir	
	Total	Planta-	Wild-	Planta-	Wild-	Planta-	Wild-	Planta-	Wild-
		tions	land	tions	land	tions	land	tions	land
Northeast district:	436	87	349	63	10	23	29	1	310
Public	24	16	8	16	-	-	1	-	7
Large private ^{2/}	32	17	15	9	-	8	-	-	15
Other private	380	54	326	38	10	15	28	1	288
Northwest district:	480	69	411	62	-	5	97	2	314
Public	6	5	1	5	-	-	*	-	1
Large private ^{2/}	10	10	*	10	-	*	-	-	*
Other private	464	54	410	47	-	5	97	2	313
Central district:	297	153	144	138	-	15	75	-	69
Public	19	19	-	19	-	-	-	-	-
Large private ^{2/}	46	39	7	39	-	-	7	-	-
Other private	232	95	137	80	-	15	68	-	69
SE and SW districts:	75	71	4	68	-	3	-	-	4
Public	9	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	-
Large private ^{2/}	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other private	66	62	4	59	-	3	-	-	4
State total:	1,288	380	908	331	10	46	201	3	697
Public	58	49	9	49	-	-	1	-	8
Large private ^{2/}	88	66	22	58	-	8	7	-	15
Other private	1,142	265	877	224	10	38	193	3	674

^{1/} The data shown are based on a mail canvass. The response was as follows: 35 percent of licensed Christmas tree dealers, 66 percent of WCTPA members, 52 percent large private landowners, and 100 percent public landowners; the average for all groups was 43 percent. Nonrespondents to questionnaire were not sampled; hence no accuracy statement is made.

^{2/} 5,000 acres or more.

* Less than 500 trees.

(Over)

Wisconsin Christmas tree production by species and county groups
within each district, 1957

(Thousand trees)

District and county ^{1/}	Species			
	All	Pine	Spruce	Balsam
	species			fir
Northeast district:				
Florence, Forest, Marinette	110	30	19	61
Lincoln, Oneida, Vilas	200	23	15	162
Langlade, Oconto, Shawano	126	20	18	88
Total	436	73	52	311
Northwest district:				
Ashland, Bayfield, Iron	124	16	54	54
Burnett, Douglas, Washburn	117	34	18	65
Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor	239	12	30	197
Total	480	62	102	316
Central district:				
Marathon, Portage, Waupaca, Wood	87	32	18	37
Chippewa, Clark, Eau Claire	48	8	18	22
Jackson, Juneau, Monroe	42	16	24	2
Adams, Marquette, Waushara	120	82	30	8
Total	297	138	90	69
Southeast district:				
Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Outagamie	20	17	-	3
Columbia, Green Lake, Sheboygan	16	16	-	-
Green, Jefferson, Walworth, Waukesha	18	18	-	-
Total	54	51	-	3
Southwest district:				
Barron, Dunn, Trempealeau	12	9	3	-
Iowa, La Crosse, Sauk, Vernon	9	8	-	1
Total	21	17	3	1
State total	1,288	2/ 341	3/ 247	700

^{1/} Limited to those counties with a cut of 500 or more Christmas trees.

^{2/} Red pine 319,000, Scotch and white pines 22,000.

^{3/} White spruce 154,000, black spruce 93,000.